

The Water Funnel



Volume 9, Issue 2

Summer 2003

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Message from Administrator By Karen Irion

The theme for this edition of the Water Funnel is State/Public Water System Teamwork. As the shift in compliance is moving increasingly towards system operations, the role of the Operator is steadily increasing. At the same time, the new rules being developed at EPA are increasing the tasks and complexity for maintaining compliance at Public Drinking Water Systems. The State Safe Drinking Water Program staff is reorganizing to try to serve systems more effectively as the state's Public Water Systems struggle with trying to meet the new, complex compliance requirements.

At Central Office, our staff is specializing in specific



Q & A: DHH Employees Michael Thompson and Emery Layton answer questions at the Safe Drinking Water Information booth during the LRWA Training conference

programs to assist the systems with meeting compliance requirements. The **Enforcement Program** (Sidney Becnel/MacDonald Volentine) assists systems with Public Notice language and requirements. The **Fluoride Program** (Emery Layton) helps systems begin and

maintain fluoridation systems, including providing funds for a limited number of systems each year. The **Consumer Confidence Report Program** (Emery Layton/Dan MacDonald) aids systems in preparing and publishing their annual

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EPA Grant Awarded to Operator Certification Program By Tom Walton



The Safety Council of Southwest Louisiana, in partnership with Booth, Hel-lums & Associates, LLC, has

been awarded the EPA's Operator Certification Expense Reimbursement Grant from the Department of Health and Hospitals. This 3-year grant will reimburse the cost of training, including an appropriate per diem for unsalaried operators, and certification for persons operating community and non-transient noncommunity

public water systems serving 3,300 persons or fewer that are required to undergo training pursuant to the operator certification final guidelines. The grant provides for eighteen (18) 32-hour operator certification training classes, followed by closed exams. The training also includes thirty-six (36) 8-hour certification renewal

sessions covering a variety of topics including: disinfection byproducts, system security and backflow prevention. This grant covers the 9 regions of the state.

For information on class schedules, contact the Safety Council of Southwest Louisiana at (337) 436-8809, or e-mail at mlinday@safetycouncilswla.org

Louisiana Information Database Alliance

By Kate Gilmore

Some of you may have experienced problems with getting your official address changed for your water system. Just when you think you have everything the way it should be, Whoops, there's that old address again popping up!

Wasn't the computer age going to solve all these problems? Right! So it should be simple, just make the change in one place and all the rest will follow! Wrong!

Actually, the Safe Drinking Water Program currently has your water system address listed in three (yes 3) different places. The Database of Record, Sdwis-State is the official record. This is where we store all the compliance information about your water system and from there, send records up to EPA.

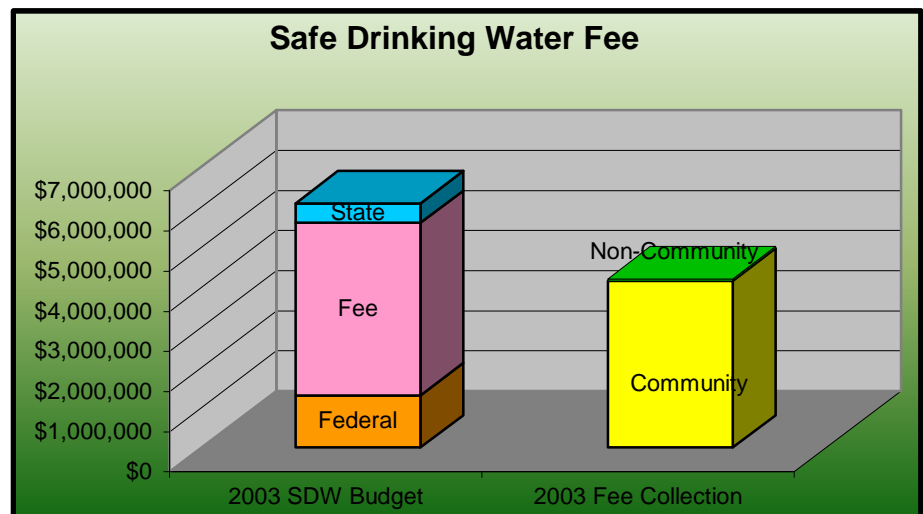
There are two other address records that operate independently. One is for the SDW Administrative Fee. In some cases, this address is different from the one used at the water system. When in doubt, we refer back to Sdwis-State for the official record.

Then last, but not least, the laboratory that runs your chemical samples has a separate and independent database. This database is managed by the state laboratory in New Orleans and we have been updating these records, but these changes are done more infrequently.

If you are experiencing problems with your address, we recommend the following procedure. Draft a letter with your PWSID, your old address and

new address info. Send this letter to your regional safe drinking water office, and to Central Office in Baton Rouge. The changes should be effected within 30 days.

If you need assistance with a public water supply issue, please contact us in Baton Rouge at 225-324-6558 or by calling your regional safe drinking water representative.



UPDATE: LEAD AND COPPER PROGRAM

By Michael L. Thompson

Once again, the time has come for many water systems around the state to take samples for compliance with the Lead and Copper Rule. As many of you are well aware, since the rule was promulgated in 1991, the State of Louisiana has been charged with the responsibility of collecting water samples for Lead and Copper. Here at the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals, we try to lead the water systems of our state through the necessary steps to ensure compliance with various drinking water regulations. The Lead and Copper Rule is no different.

There are a few key points that may be unfamiliar to you about the Lead and

Copper Rule. For example, all samples collected for compliance with this rule must be first draw tap samples. What this means is that the water must be allowed to sit motionless in the pipes of the establishment for 6 to 10 hours immediately before the sample is collected. As a result, many people, especially homeowners, find it more convenient to collect the samples first thing in the morning or immediately upon returning home after the workday. Also, because the samples for community water systems must come from within the homes they serve (i.e. bathroom or kitchen taps), homeowners are allowed to collect the samples. However, water system personnel

must provide instruction to the homeowners on how to properly collect the water sample. Most systems find the instruction sheet, which is sent with the other sampling materials, adequate enough instruction. It is important to note that it is still the responsibility of the water system to gather the filled sample containers from the residents and send them to the central office lab in New Orleans no later than September 30, 2003.

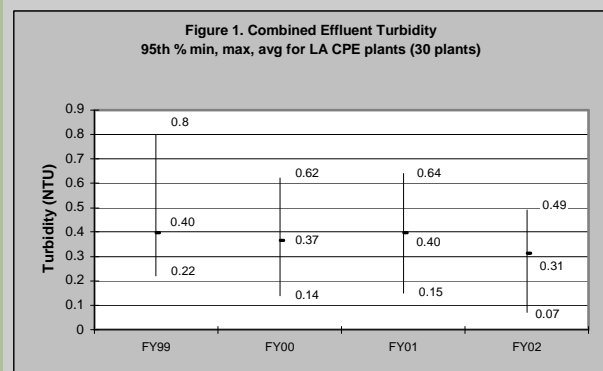
This year, 2003, DHH expects samples from more than half of all the water systems in the state that this rule applies to. In fact, a total of 696 commu-

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Area Wide Optimization Program Report

By Caryn Benjamin

The Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals (LDHH)
Area Wide Optimization Program (AWOP)



The Louisiana AWOP effort has been an eight-year joint partnership between the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) and LDHH. The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 6, EPA Technical Support Center (TSC), and other EPA Region 6 states (Arkansas, New Mexico, and Oklahoma) are participating in the EPA Region 6 AWOP Pilot. The goal of this program is to optimize particle removal at existing surface water treatment plants in each of the participating states for the purpose of maximizing public health protection from waterborne diseases caused by microbial contaminants.

A crucial part of AWOP is the Composite Correction Program (CCP). LDHH has been a leading national advocate of the CCP, which consists of a Comprehensive Performance Evaluation (CPE) and Comprehensive Technical Assistance (CTA). Thirty-two CPEs have been conducted in the state to date. The Louisiana CPE program is considered one of the most ambitious and successful CPE programs in the country.

Figure 1 shows statistics of the 95th per-

centile combined effluent turbidities for plants in Louisiana that have had a CPE. The graph shows the range of 95th percentile values (minimum 95th percentile turbidity, maximum 95th percentile turbidity, and the average 95th percentile for all plants) for Fiscal Year (FY) 1999, 2000, 2001 and 2002. The average 95th percentile value (based upon daily maximum values) was 0.40 NTU in FY99, 0.37 NTU in FY00, 0.40 NTU in FY01, and 0.31 NTU in FY02. The average 95th percentile value declined by nearly 0.1 NTU from FY99 to FY02.

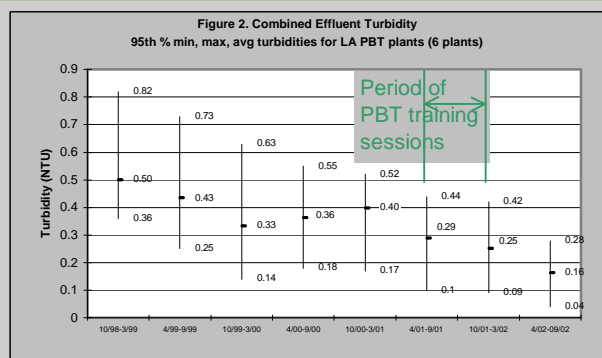
In addition to other ongoing AWOP activities, LDHH/Corps has completed an exciting pilot training program, called Performance-Based Training (PBT), in northwestern Louisiana, which was kicked off in April 2001. Performance-Based Training is a multi-plant technical training program, which focuses on transferring priority setting and problem solving skills to individual plant staff in order to improve plant performance. The pilot training effort, which involved six surface water plants, was completed in April 2002.

Figure 2 shows statistics of the 95th percentile turbidities for the 6 plants participating in the PBT pilot. The graph shows the range of 95th per-

tile values at 6-month intervals (minimum 95th percentile turbidity value, maximum 95th percentile turbidity value, and the average 95th percentile turbidity value) from the period of October 1998 – September 2002. Prior to the training, only one of the six plants was meeting 0.30 NTU, 95 percent of the time. In the six months following the training, all six of the plants were meeting 0.30 NTU, 95 percent of the time. In fact, three of the six plants were meeting 0.10 NTU, 95 percent of the time. The average 95th percentile for the six plants was 0.40 NTU in the six months prior to the training. In the six months after the final session, the 95th percentile was 0.16 NTU.

A second PBT is being conducted with eight plants in the southeastern part of the state, which kicked off in August 2002. Similar PBT pilots nationwide have shown dramatic improvement in individual plant performance. The PBT “tool” is an integral part of the “Follow Up Component” of AWOP in the state of Louisiana.

The EPA Region 6 AWOP Pilot is an ambitious and exciting program that con-



tinues to bring about important changes to the Louisiana Drinking Water Program and will provide the highest level of protection to the citizens of the state of Louisiana from waterborne illnesses.

CCR Update By Emery Layton

Fluoridation Awards to be Presented



44 water systems in Louisiana currently adjust fluoride levels. Approximately 2 million of the states 4.4 million people receive fluoridated water. The following letter was submitted to DHH in regards to five of the water systems in Louisiana for their hard work in 2002.

“2002 Fluoridation Quality Award”

Fluoridation of community drinking water is a major factor responsible for the decline of dental caries (tooth decay) during the second half of the 20th century. The Centers for Disease Con-

trol and Prevention (CDC) recognizes community water fluoridation as one of ten great public health achievements of the 20th century. Beginning with Grand Rapids, Michigan in 1945, community water fluoridation has expanded to over 6,400 water systems adjusting their fluoride concentration. In the United States, over 162 million people now have access to fluoridated drinking water.

The safety and effectiveness of fluoridation depends upon how consistently the water treatment operator maintains the optimum fluoride concentration. To assist state and tribal fluoridation managers with monitoring the quality of water fluoridation, CDC designed an Internet-based database called the *Water Fluoridation Reporting System* (WFRS), which allows managers to enter monthly quality data for all fluoridated water systems under their jurisdiction.

Based upon the data entered in WFRS, your water system is recognized for providing optimally fluoridated drinking water for all 12 months of 2002.

CONGRATULATIONS! Your dedicated efforts have resulted in improved oral health for your family, neighbors, and community.

~Dave M. Apanian, National Fluoridation Engineer

Division of Oral Health, CDC

The Louisiana Fluoridation management program will be visiting to award plaques to the following systems:

?St. John Water District #1
?St. John Water District #2
?St. Charles Water District #1
?St. Charles Water District #2
?Calcasieu Parish Water Works District #1

These water systems were recognized at the La Rural Water Association banquet, 16 July 2003. Look for pictures of these water systems staff in upcoming articles of *The Water Funnel*.

Arsenic Update – Where are we going with it? By Michael Thompson

There have been several issues on the minds of water system administrators, lately. Among the top is the issue of Arsenic. Many people just do not understand what the new standard will mean for their system. For those of you who are not aware, in 2001 the EPA lowered the standard for arsenic to 10.0 ppb from 50.0 ppb. This change will be difficult for many of our water systems.

It has been widely stated that the costs systems will encounter in efforts to meet the new arsenic standards will be enormous. EPA estimates that total capital costs in treatment technology and infrastructure are almost \$900 mil-

lion, nation-wide. In addition, it is expected that annual operation and maintenance costs for systems and monitoring and administrative costs for states implementing the rule will top \$120 million. Unfortunately, most of the cost for capital improvement will fall on the shoulders of a relatively small number of ground water systems, with a majority of those serving less than 500 people. These same small water systems often do not have the resources available to secure the funds necessary to make the necessary upgrades to their water systems.

Many systems, both large and small,

are often unaware of the different financing options, treatment options available, and the steps and time required to properly implement new treatment. For that reason the OPH – Safe Drinking Water Program has begun sending quarterly guidance letters to the systems that are affected by the Arsenic Rule. The first letter, which was mailed out in March 2003, included a summary of the new rule as well as a request for investigative samples. The investigative samples are voluntarily collected by the water systems and sent to the lab of their choice. These samples are crucial in determining who needs immediate assistance and who will have no difficulty meeting the new standard. In July, the second of four letters for 2003 was mailed

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Congratulations!!! Louisiana's Office of Public Health Drinking Water Revolving Loan Fund Program Receives EPA's PACE Award



DWRLF Staff: from left to right (Front Row): Jennifer Kihlken, Carrie Creel, Jennifer Meyer (Center Row): Eugene Bradley, Jackie Pierson, Julie Comeaux, Ron Petty, Guy Dietrich (Back Row): Earl Paddock, T.Jay Ray, Mason Seals

The Region 6 Office of the Environmental Protection Agency recently commended the Office of Public Health for its efforts to improve the pace of Louisiana's Drinking Water Revolving Loan Fund Program. EPA officials presented OPH staff involved with the program with the PACE award, which the agency gives each year to the state that shows the most improvement in issuing loans over the past year. Louisiana OPH representatives received the "Most Improved Region 6 State" award during the Five State/EPA Annual Drinking Water Meeting held on January 28 at the Dallas EPA Regional office. The states in EPA Region 6 include Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas.

DHH Makes \$3.7 Million Loan to the City of Westlake

Baton Rouge – The Department of Health and Hospitals Office of Public Health has awarded a \$3.7 million loan to the City of Westlake to help the community improve its drinking water. The loan was finalized last Thursday, March 27.

"Westlake can now improve its water system which will result in improved drinking water for the community," said DHH Secretary David Hood. "The money will be used to drill a new water well, construct a new water treatment facility and to improve the distribution system, including installation of water meters throughout the service area," he added.

The funds are provided by the OPH's Water Revolving Loan Fund Program. This fund was established by Congress in 1996 as part of the Amendments to the Safe Drinking Water Act.

Louisiana and other states are eligible to receive federal grants annually from EPA as long as the states provide the necessary

matching funds of 20 percent on an annual basis. Upon approval of the loans, communities borrow from the fund. The principal and interest that are paid back to the fund allow more

money to become available for other communities that have drinking water problems. These loans are approved on a priority system. Projects

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Left: Mr. T. Jay Ray, Manager of the Drinking Water Revolving Loan Fund, Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals, Office of Public Health
Left Center: Mrs. Madeline W. McAndrew, Former Assistant Secretary, Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals, Office of Public Health
Center: Mr. Alan Offner, Bond Attorney, Foley & Judell, LLP
Right Center: Mr. Vernon Meyer, P.E., Consulting Engineer representing the City of Westlake, Meyer & Associates, Inc.
Right: Mayor Dudley Dixon, City of Westlake

Groundwater — Finally! Water Management in Louisiana

By Dean Lowe



The past legislative session resulted in enactment of a ground breaking law mandating statewide management of Louisiana ground water and surface water resources. Entitled Act 49, the new law created a permanent system for centralized management of the state's water resources. While much room is left for improvement, the act sets a very good foundation for current ground water management and ongoing modification

of the statewide water management general strategy. Until enactment of this law, Louisiana was the only state in the Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Texas four state region that did not have a formal statewide water management program in force.

The water management system created by Act 49 consists of a centralized administrative department, supported by local regional entities or districts, and a permanent policy development and review commission. The act will be administered through the Department of Natural Resources, Office of Conservation by means of a newly created Water Resources Division. The Commissioner of Conservation will be the primary administrator of the act. The act designates two presently commissioned local water districts, Capitol Area Ground Water Commission and Sparta Ground Water Commission, to be the local representatives for their respective geo-

graphic areas. Other districts will be created as needed to represent local interests of regions that have yet to be determined.

Supporting the Office of Conservation, Water Resources Division is the Ground Water Resources Commission (Commission). The Commission consists of 19 members of the state stakeholders in water usage as follows:

1. Governor's Office representative
2. Commissioner of Conservation
3. Commissioner of Agriculture and Forestry
4. Secretary of Office of Economic Development
5. Secretary of Department of Environmental Quality
6. Secretary of Department of Health and Hospitals
7. Secretary of Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
8. Secretary of Department of Trans-

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Vulnerability Assessment: July Update

By Amanda Laughlin

The Bioterrorism Preparedness and Response Act of 2002 requires all community water system that serve 3,300 to 100,000 people perform and certify to EPA that they have conducted a Vulnerability Assessment. In addition, each water system has to certify to EPA that an Emergency Response Plan was conducted no later than six months from the day that the Vulnerability Assessment was turned in to EPA.

Last year, the Louisiana Safe Drinking Water Program (SDWP) received grant money from the Environmental Protection Agency to provide training and technical assistance to systems that serve populations of 3,300 to 100,000. The Vulnerability Assessment and



Emergency Response Plan training was performed throughout the State by contractors hired by the SDWP in April, May, and June of 2003. In these sessions, the water systems were given valuable information on how to perform a Vulnerability Assessment and

Emergency Response Plan. For those systems that were unable to attend, there will be more training and technical assistance sponsored by the SDWP later this year.

Please remember: The deadline for the Vulnerability Assessment is December 31, 2003 for systems serving populations 50,000 to 100,000 and June 30, 2004 for systems serving populations 3,300 to 49,999. All systems will be responsible for submitting an Emergency Response Plan six months after the Vulnerability Assessment is turned in to EPA.

For more information or questions, contact Amanda A. Laughlin at 225-765-0786.

Lead and Copper *continued*

(Continued from page 2)

nity and non-transient non-community water systems will sample this year alone. With such a large number of samples expected, it would be easy for confusion to occur. Because of this, it is important for all

involved to familiarize themselves with the basics of this rule. If you feel that you are due to submit samples in 2003, but have not yet received the necessary materials, please contact your regional engineering office immediately.

Please forward any questions or comments regarding the Lead and Copper Program to Michael Thompson at: mthompson@dhh.state.la.us, or (225) 765-5048.

Regulatory Update *continued*

(Continued from page 1)

CCR reports. Michael Thompson in the **Lead and Copper Program** guides systems through the lead and copper monitoring requirements. The **Operator Certification Program** (Stacy Williams/Thomas Walton) is responsible for training, testing, and certifying operators. The **Plumbing Program** (Sidney Becnel/ Dan MacDonald) assists systems with compliance of the Part XIV Plumbing Code. The **Water Security Program** (Amanda Laughlin) assists Public Water Systems with meeting the requirements of the 2002 Bioterrorism Act. Hands-on plant operating assistance is provided under the **Area Wide Optimization Program** (Caryn Benjamin), in which state engineers perform Comprehensive Performance Evaluations and group Performance Based Training.

Source Water Protection is performed by a combination of staff at the Department of Environmental Quality (Howard Fielding/Mary Gentry) and the SDWP (Amanda Laughlin/Dan MacDonald). The DEQ staff also manage the **Well Head Protection Program** and the **Source Water Assessment Program**, whose results can be viewed online at www.deq.state.la.us/evaluation/aeps/swap.

Aside from providing low interest loans to Public Water Systems, the Safe Drinking Water Revolving Loan Fund (SRF) also manages the **Capacity Development Program** (Jennifer Meyer), which assists systems in developing operating/financing strategies to increase their performance. The SRF

engineering staff also reviews plans for new facilities (Guy Dietrich/Earl Paddock), and provides technical assistance to Very Small Systems (those with populations below 500) (Eugene Bradley).

The four District Offices check and maintain the Monthly Operating Reports, the Monitoring Plans, and the Total Coliform Rule (Bacteriological) Compliance. The Regional offices are responsible for plan reviews, sanitary surveys, chemical sample collection, and complaint response. The Regional Offices are the first stop for assistance for all Public Water Systems. The Parish Offices provide staff for bacteriological and chlorine residual sample collection.

The Engineering Services Division planned to begin testing groundwater and the small Public Water Systems beginning in January 2003. State budget problems mean that the additional costs (amounting to as much as \$500,000) needed to perform this testing is not available. Since we have not received additional funding through the legislature, any state funded tests for Total Trihalomethanes and Haloacetic acids cannot be made. Public Water Systems will therefore have to comply with the Disinfectants and Disinfection Byproducts Rule beginning January 1, 2004, including performing the required sampling and analysis. We therefore encourage systems to perform their own Total Trihalomethanes and Haloacetic acids tests prior to the compliance period, and to take steps to meet the requirements of the rule. It is

a balancing act to maintain an adequate chlorine residual and keep Total Trihalomethanes and Haloacetic acids below the MCLs in the distribution systems. Small surface systems should have TOC/SUVA monitoring beginning in January 2003 in order to be eligible for retroactive approval of Step 2 levels in 2005.

The future of the system/agency partnership will rely on accurate communications and records. It will soon become a necessity for all Public Water Systems to have access to the internet and e-mail addresses. Mailing costs continue to increase at a time when state budgets are declining. Only through rapid data exchange via the internet can water systems receive sampling data, security alerts, guidance documents, and other important information at the pace and frequency needed to maintain system safety and compliance at today's information pace. We are committed to putting an increased amount of information on our website for the public to access. EPA also places information about each water system on its website at www.epa.gov/safewater/dwinfo.

If your system wants to receive information, including security alerts, from the state via e-mail, please provide an e-mail address and/or a fax number, along with contact person and PWS identification number to kirion@dhh.state.la.us. We have only received this information from four systems so far.

The following water systems have been issued an Administrative Order since the last issue of the Water Funnel:

People's Water/Donaldsonville (DDBR) Ascension Parish
Town of Merryville (TCR) Beauregard Parish
Prairieville Post Office (TCR) Ascension Parish



The following water systems have been released from their Administrative Order since the last issue of the Water Funnel:

Ward 1 Water System Inc. (L&C) Avoyelles Parish
Pendarvis/Pelican Point (PHYS) Ascension Parish
I-55 Weigh Station-South (TCR) Tangipahoa Parish
Lake Bruin Water District 1 (SWT) Tensas Parish
Lake Ramsey WS (L&C) St. Tammany Parish
St. Rest Water System (L&C) Jackson Parish
Country View MHP WS (L&C) Tangipahoa Parish
Wards Four & Five WS (L&C) Caldwell Parish
Harry Connors TP WS (L&C) Calcasieu Parish
A to Z Daycare Center (L&C) St. Tammany Parish
Oak River Estates WS (L&C) St. Tammany Parish
Springhill Water System (L&C) Bienville Parish
Timberlane Subdivision (PHYS) Iberville Parish
Mooringsport WS (SWT) Caddo Parish
Leblancs/Triple S WS (TCR) Ascension Parish
Acadiana Wilderns Cap (TCR) St. Landry Parish
Norbert's Golden Gate (TCR) Lafayette Parish
Melba's Grocery Washington Parish
Butte Larose Rest Stop (TCR) St. Martin Parish
Mount Vernon Motel WS (PHYS) St. Tammany Parish
Richardson General Store (TCR) Washington Parish
Country Living MHP (L&C) Tangipahoa Parish
Langton Landing MHP (TCR) Sabine Parish
Cit-Con Oil Corp (TCR) Calcasieu Parish
Oak Haven MHP WS (TCR) Bossier Parish
Pearl River Polymers (TCR) St. Tammany Parish
Campti Water System (TCR) Natchitoches Parish
Exide Corp WS (TCR) East Baton Rouge Parish

Operator Certification - Program Fact Sheet

Program Objective / Responsibility:

This program establishes the standards against which the competence and ability of water and wastewater system operators, and provides formal state certification by the State Health Officer for all those who qualify. The original program was established to insure that public water supply systems and sewage disposal systems are operated by competent, qualified personnel. Certification is granted to operators upon successful completion of the testing and evaluation process. The program maintains database of operators presently numbering approximately 5,500, and tracks continuing education hours for each. Staff also assist in establishing training schedules and administering open and closed exams on a state-wide basis.

Program Authority:

Louisiana Revised Statutes: LRS 40:1141 - 1151 (Act 538 of the 1972 Louisiana Legislature)

Louisiana Administrative Code: LAC 48: V. Chapter 73 (Revised April 1, 2002)

Program Staffing / Location:

The office is presently staffed with an Acting Administrator, a Training officer, one full-time secretary, one contract employee, and one part-time student worker. The program is housed within Engineering Services, and all staff are located in the Center for Environmental Health Services headquarters office. The program also receives limited periodic assistance from Engineering Services regional staff.

Program Budget:

The projected program budget for FY 03/04 is expected to be approximately \$196,000, of which approximately \$75,000 is self-generated funds.

New Requirements:

Newly revised administrative rules for Operator Certification went into effect on April 1, 2002. The changes were required in the 1996 amendments to the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). Section 1419 contains the guidelines governing the certification and recertification of operators as set by EPA. These guidelines were published in the Federal Register on February 6, 1999.

Program Activities / Accomplishments:

5 "open" (walk-in) examinations offered per year (averaging 450 - 500 operators attending each).

approximately 50 "closed" exams (available to closed training course attendees only - typically 15 to 50 operators per course) planned for 2003 (17 completed in first quarter 2003).

410 training courses approved in 2002. 300 additional requests anticipated for 2003 (61 courses already approved in first quarter 2003).

1406 certifications issued in 2002. Expected to issue an additional 1500+ in 2003 (408 already issued in first quarter 2003).

Replace / update 1/3 (8 out of 24) of the certifications each year.

!!! ATTENTION !!!

PWS CCR Non-Compliance List

As you know CCR's are required to be performed by 1 July of each year, for the previous calendar year. Water systems then have until 1 Oct to certify with the primacy agency. The following water systems have yet to comply with previous year CCR and are having fines over \$5000 levied against them.

1999 Monitoring Period

Mires Trailer Park

2000 Monitoring Period

Oakwood Estates MHP
Pine Trailer Park
Mires Trailer Park
Briarwood MHP
East Cove Utilities
B & M Trailer Park
Jeanette Labrys Trailer Park
East Hodge
Grambling
Kirby's Place Trailer Park
Morehouse Central
Victoria Acres Subdivision
Jenkins Community
Backwood Village

2001 Monitoring Period

Oakwood Estates MHP
Pine Trailer Park
Mires Trailer Park
Dutchtown Lane Subdivision
City of Marksville
County Place Subdivision
Peaceful Pines MHP
Bellevue
Rolling Ridge Subdivision
East Cove Utilities
Northwood MHP
Blanchard MHP
Bell City Water System
Prien Pine Bluff Subdivision
B & M Trailer Park
Smith Mobile Home Village
Rosemont Trailer Park
Gulf Stream Manor
Athens Water System
Highway 513
East Feliciana Rural Water Works

Highland Lake Shore Estates
Village of Turkey Creek
Ward 5 WW Dist#1, Long Pine
Jeanette Labrys Trailer Park
East Hodge
Evangeline Trailer Park
Sunrise Addition
Belah-Fellowship
Nebo, Inc.
Village of Urania
Lincon Parish WW Dist#2
River Pines Plantation Utilities
Village of Port Vincent
Ridgecrest Trailer Park
Willow Springs Trailer Park
Kirbys Place Trailer Park
Pine Acres
Bayou Acres Subdivision
Morehouse Central
Calhoun
Neighbors Water Well Corp.
Twin Pines MHP
Bayou Pierre, Inc.
Sabine Parish Water Dist#1
Belmont
Darling Water Works Assn.
Town of Melville
Flamingo Apartments
Country Club Trailer Park
Shady Oaks
Shady Pines Trailer Park
Ozone Pine Subdivision
Westview Water Works
Pine Hill Forest Subdivision
Johnny's MHP
East Tickfaw WW
Union Parish WW Dist#1
Victoria Acres Subdivision
Grand Prairie Subdivision
Vernon Parish Water & Sewer Commission
Jenkins Community
Palmetto Beach
Goodwill
Wheeling, Inc.
Backwood Village

Arsenic *continued*

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to the water systems. Consumer Confidence Reports (CCR) and financing options was the focus of that letter. There have been a few changes in the CCR requirements concerning arsenic as well. If you did not receive these letters please let us know as soon as possible. It is important for you to stay well informed about what is and will be expected of your system with respect to the new Arsenic standard.

While it appears as though we have a few years before anyone needs to worry about the new 10.0 ppb standard, the truth is that we do not. If you think about how much time your system might need for each step of the process (financing, developing plans, plans approval, and construction) implementation could take well over the 2 and a half years remaining before the rule is enforced.

We hope that you see our need for you to be aware of the needs of your system. OPH – Safe Drinking Water Program would like to assist you in this transition. However, we can only help you if you know what you need help with.

Please send any questions or concerns about the Arsenic Rule to mthompson@dhh.state.la.us or elayton@dhh.state.la.us.



LDHH, Safe Drinking Water Program has done everything it can to help you prepare your CCR report. The CCR rule has been in place for 5 years now; there is no excuse for not performing this task. If you would like further assistance or feel that your name should not appear on this listing please contact N. Emery Layton the DHH CCR program manager at: elayton@dhh.state.la.us

New Safe Drinking Water Rules Published

By Karen Irion

The EPA has been very busy this summer. EPA published the Long Term 2 Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule (LT2SWTR) as a Proposed Rule in the Federal Register on Monday, August 11, 2003 (68 FR 47639). This 157-page rule will be open for public comment until November 10, 2003. EPA has also issued the Stage 2 Disinfectants and Disinfection Byproducts Rule (Stage 2 DBR) which is expected to be published in the Federal Register the week of August 18-22, 2003. The

LT2SWTR requires surface water plants to conduct cryptosporidium monitoring. The Stage 2 DBR tightens the point of compliance for TTHMs and HAA5s from an average to the single sampling location, where the highest levels of disinfection byproducts were found.

Also proposed in the Federal Register on July 18, 2003 are two notices: the completion of the six-year review of existing drinking water standards (68

FR 42908), and the announcement of regulatory determinations for priority contaminants on the drinking water contaminant candidate list (68 FR 42898).

Fact sheets on these notices and proposed rules can be obtained at the EPA's website:
<http://www.epa.gov/safewater>.

Groundwater : Water Management *continued*

(Continued from page 6)

portation and Development

9. Director of Governor's Office of Coastal Activities
10. Geologist appointed by the governor
11. Representative of joint LA Chemical Association, LA Mid-Continent Oil and Gas Association, Association of Business and Industries and LA Pulp and Paper Association
12. Representative of LA Farm Bureau
13. Representative of LA Police Jury Association
14. Representative of LA Municipal Association
15. Representative of Sparta Groundwater Commission
16. Representative of Capital Area Groundwater Commission
17. Resident of Chicot Aquifer geographic area
18. Representative of LA Landowners Association
19. Representative of joint LA Wildlife Federation, Coalition to Restore Coastal Louisiana, and League of Women Voters

The act mandates that the Commission meet at least once quarterly but it can meet more frequently as needed to meet the requirements of the act. The primary function of the Commission is to oversee the activities of the Commissioner of Conservation and develop ongoing strategies for statewide water manage-

ment (i.e., extension of Act 446 strategy development activities). Specifically the act gives the Commission the following minimum responsibilities:

1. Review and approve or reject any order by the Commissioner restricting production of any well; however, the review is only at the petition of an affected owner or owner of another well located in the same aquifer
2. Review rules and regulations proposed by the Commissioner
3. Continue development of the state comprehensive water management program in conjunction with the Commissioner
4. Review the contingency plan developed by the Commissioner to respond to emergency conditions
5. Direct the Commissioner to designate up to five regional bodies for developing data and recommendations for local water management means and develop rules and regulations governing the regional bodies
6. Attend, at their discretion, all public hearings conducted by the Commissioner

Clearly the act intends for a joint effort to be made by the Commissioner, regional bodies supporting the Commissioner and the Ground Water Resources commission in promoting and

administering the statewide water management program.

The act conspicuously does not address surface water issues, but it lays a good foundation for these issues to be addressed through the water management resources it created. Such issues as alternative water sources can be addressed adequately with the mechanism placed into affect by the act.

One of the outstanding mandates of the act is for the Commissioner to identify and designate "critical ground water areas" that require immediate and possibly drastic actions to circumvent disaster. The act generally defines a critical ground water area as being based on sustainability of the aquifer under current conditions. The critical groundwater area is the only instance that the act gives authority for production controls and/or fee incentives to be imposed. All other areas are intended to emphasize conservation measures with a great reliance on public education to support the conservation efforts.

More details of this landmark act will be forthcoming in future Funnel articles under this column. See you then.

City of Westlake *continued*

(Continued from page 5)

that address the most serious risk to human health and projects to ensure compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Act are given highest priority.

Loans made through this program are low interest and have a maximum 20-year repayment period. The systems eligible for the program are public and privately-owned community systems and nonprofit, non-community water systems.

"The purpose of the fund is to provide states with a financial mechanism to make loans to drinking water systems for infrastructure improvements. These improvements assist the systems in complying with the Safe Drinking Water Act

and protect public health," said T. J. Ray, program manager for the Drinking Water Revolving Loan Fund.

Madeline McAndrew, OPH assistant secretary, said it is imperative that all Louisiana residents have access to safe drinking water.

"This program helps ensure that communities have a source of dependable and affordable funding so that their water treatment facilities may benefit from the latest and most modern technology," McAndrew said.

"Our Council wants to provide the citizens of Westlake with the best water we can, and this loan will allow us to do that," said Westlake Mayor Dudley

Dixon. "We are very grateful to receive such a substantial amount of funding, and appreciate that the Department of Health and Hospitals can assist through their Drinking Water Revolving Loan Program."

Without this source of funding, it would be difficult for us to take on a project of such magnitude. We are happy we will be able to provide a higher quality of water and to better serve our customers."

For more information about the program, please contact T. J. Ray at the Office of Public Health (225) 765-5075

Bottled Water Regulations



Beginning January 1, 2002, bottled water sold in Louisiana will be required to meet new quality standards for three residual disinfectants and three types of disinfection byproducts. Also, the existing allowable level for the disinfection byproducts total trihalomethanes (TTHM) will be revised. These changes are a result of a direct final rule published by FDA in the March 28, 2001 Federal Register.

In Louisiana, bottled water is regulated by FDA at the federal level and by the Department of Health & Hospitals, Office of Public Health, Food & Drug Unit at the state level. Under state, Food & Drug department rules, bottled water processors, packers, distributors and dealers must hold a valid permit to operate and must register each separate and distinct product with the

department annually.

Louisiana's Bottled Water Law and Regulations

The Louisiana Bottled Water Law, LSA R.S. 40:733(A) stipulates that bottled water shall meet the quality standards prescribed by the FDA in 21, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 165.110(b) and shall not exceed any maximum contaminant level established by EPA under the Safe Drinking Water Act or quality standards prescribed by the department by rule. Also, the Louisiana Bottled Water Law, LSA R.S. 40:734(A) requires that bottled water be filtered, processed and packaged in accordance with the 21 CFR, Part 110 and Part 129 as well as any rules adopted by the department.

New D/DBP Requirements

As of January 1, 2002, FDA and the Department of Health & Hospitals will require that bottled water meet the following new and revised water quality standards and must begin monitoring for disinfectants and disinfection byproducts. Monitoring requirements will be dependent upon the source of

water for bottling and on the type of disinfection required.

The allowable levels for residual disinfectants and disinfection byproducts are as follows:

Residual disinfectants

Chloramine
Chlorine
Chlorine dioxide

Disinfection byproducts

Bromate
Chlorite
Haloacetic acids (five)
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)

These standards of quality are equivalent to the allowable contamination levels promulgated by the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency in the Stage I Disinfection Byproducts (D/DBP) Rule published December 16, 1998.

Summary

The FDA direct final rule of March 28, 2001 will ensure that the minimum quality standards for bottled water are equivalent to the quality of public drinking water regulated by EPA standards.

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